

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF  
GEORGIA  
ATLANTA DIVISION**

<b>MARK WALTERS,</b>	)	
<b>Plaintiff,</b>	)	
	)	
<b>v.</b>	)	<b>No. 1:23-CV-03122-MLB</b>
	)	
<b>OPENAI, L.L.C.,</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Defendant.</b>	)	

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**DECLARATION OF JOHN MONROE**

John Monroe declares as follows under penalty of perjury:

1. I am at least 18 years of age and otherwise competent to make this declaration.
2. I am the sole legal counsel for Plaintiff Mark Walters in this action.
3. On July 17, 2023, I emailed counsel for Defendant and told him the removal documents contained insufficient information from which a determination of diversity could be made.
4. After I filed the response to Defendant's response to the Court's first order to show cause, Defendant's counsel called me and said he thought the case would be remanded.
5. I spent a total of 21 hours on this case after removal, with such hours all being necessitated by the removal. Excerpts of my time records pertaining to time spent on the case after removal, and necessitated by removal, are attached as an Exhibit.

6. These hours were reasonably necessary for this case.
7. I have been practicing law for over 30 years.
8. My hourly rate is \$400 per hour.
9. This is the rate I charge clients that I charge on an hourly basis.
10. The rate is reasonable and at or below the market for attorneys practicing litigation with my level of experience.
11. I have extensive experience litigating cases in trial and appellate courts at the state and federal levels.
12. In September of 2023, I settled a fee award in Oglethorpe County, Georgia with opposing counsel at a rate of \$400 per hour.
13. In March of 2023, my hourly rate of \$400 was found to be reasonable in a civil rights case against the State of Wisconsin by the Circuit Court of Brown County, Wisconsin, which awarded fees based on that rate.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing statements are true.

/s/ John R. Monroe

John R. Monroe  
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Attorneys for Plaintiff

Date	Activity	Time
7/17/2023	Review notice of removal and accompanying docs	1.3
7/17/2023	Review standing order of Judge MLB	1.2
7/17/2023	Draft and file certificate of interested persons	0.4
7/17/2023	Correspondence with opposing counsel	0.2
7/21/2023	Review notice of LLC membership	0.3
7/21/2023	Review motion to dismiss and accompanying docs	3.7
7/22/2023	Call with client to discuss MTD	1.1
7/25/2023	Correspondence with opposing counsel	0.2
7/26/2023	Correspondence with opposing counsel	0.2
7/26/2023	Draft and file motion for extension of time to file response	0.4
7/26/2023	Review order granting extension	0.2
8/4/2023	Correspondence with opposing counsel	0.2
8/5/2023	Correspondence with opposing counsel	0.1
8/6/2023	Draft joint discovery plan	0.6
8/7/2023	Correspondence with opposing counsel	0.2
8/7/2023	Review motion for ext to file joint report	0.2
8/7/2023	Review order to show cause re diversity	0.1
8/7/2023	Review orders granting PHV	0.2
8/7/2023	Correspondence with client re diversity	0.4
8/7/2023	Rule 26f conference	0.6
8/8/2023	Correspondence with opposing counsel	0.2
8/8/2023	Review order granting extension	0.2
8/21/2023	Correspondence with opposing counsel	0.2
8/21/2023	Review Def response to order to show cause	0.7
8/21/2023	Draft and file response to response to order to show cause	0.8
8/21/2023	Review Def Initial Disclosures	0.5
8/22/2023	Draft and serve initial disclosures	0.9
9/7/2023	Correspondence with opposing counsel	0.1
9/7/2023	Call with opposing counsel	0.2
9/7/2023	Review Joint Report	0.3
9/7/2023	Review order on joint report	0.2
9/8/2023	Correspondence with opposing counsel	0.2
9/14/2023	Correspondence with opposing counsel	0.3
9/22/2023	Review 2nd order to show cause	0.2
9/22/2023	Meet with client re diversity and MTD	1.2
10/5/2023	Correspondence with opposing counsel	0.1
10/6/2023	Draft and file motion for fees on remand	2.9